HONOR CODE PLEDGE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ BLOCK: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

WHAT IS THE SITUATION? In April of 1862, President Lincoln is faced with a choice which may lead to war with the newly formed Confederacy. In Charleston Harbor, in South Carolina, federal property is being surrounded and the state of South Carolina is attempting to provoke war. As President of the United States, the choices you make may determine the outcome of the crisis. Allowing South Carolina to seize Fort Sumter would legitimize the new nation. Is it worth war?

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN AT FORT SUMTER – APRIL OF 1861**

At the time of the outbreak of hostilities, Abraham Lincoln was in a hell of a fix. There is no question that he faced a belligerent and unrepentant Southern confederation of states, and that the state of South Carolina was the most recalcitrant of enemies. But as he weight his decision, Lincoln had to consider the implications to a vast array of stakeholders. Consider all of the people – groups and individuals – who had something to lose as the President made choices about what to do over Fort Sumter. The Confederacy consisted of only seven states at the time. There were four states in the “Upper South” which had not seceded yet. There were also at least four states which were decidedly pro-Union, but where slavery was allowed. Lincoln’s Northern supporters had something at stake. Enslaved African-Americans lives were in the balance as well. Both England and France relied on Southern Cotton for their economic prosperity. Consider the choices Lincoln had to make regarding the standoff at Fort Sumter. Choose any four groups or individuals who were watching the situation, and explain what must have been happening from their perspective. Choose four unique, distinctive perspectives, and then answer the following questions about the standoff at Ft. Sumter.

**SECTION ONE**. Who were the stakeholders in this conflict?

*STAKEHOLDER #4:*

*STAKEHOLDER#3:*

*STAKEHOLDER #2:*

*STAKEHOLDER #1:*

**SECTION TWO**. What perceptions did each of the stakeholders hold regarding the conflict or crisis as it took place?

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**SECTION THREE**. What were the assumptions which each of the stakeholders in the conflict held as the conflict or crisis took place?

**SECTION FOUR**. What were the implications, conclusions, or outcomes which came to pass for each of the stakeholders in the confrontation?

**SECTION FIVE**. The Essay Question:

Which of the stakeholders involved in this conflict was the most justified in their perceptions and assumptions during this conflict? What evidence can you provide to support your answer? Were the behaviors they engaged in and the choices they made morally justified? Explain the values which were in conflict during the dispute to defend your answer. Finally, whether the choices made were justified or not, were the implications of this stakeholder’s decision positive or negative? In retrospect, should the stakeholders have adopted a different course? Why or why not? **ANSWER ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS IN A SHORT ESSAY**.

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